

Our Christian Vision - *Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven* - **Matthew 5:16**



Friday 28th November 2025

News from The Three Schools

A busy week of time travel and Christmas rehearsals!

Dear Parents and carers,

With **HONESTY, RESPECT, FORGIVENESS and LOVE**, we persevere, succeed and shine.

We have had another busy week across the Three Schools. Kingfishers have enjoyed exploring the topic of Winter, Year 4 have followed in the footsteps of Year 2 and visited the Verulamium in St Albans, EYFS and KS1 continue to prepare for their Nativity performance while KS2 pupils and musicians are readying themselves for their Christmas concert in a couple of weeks' time.

Please enjoy finding out more about this week's adventures in the newsletter.

David May (Executive Headteacher)

The KS2 Golden mile update - W.C 17th November 2025

Gates are open at 8.25am—COME AND JOIN US!

We have had a fantastic week of running this week and the children have managed to clock up an AMAZING number of miles. As a school collectively, we managed to clock up 300 laps – 15 miles!!



The class that covered the most distance was **Year 3** with 131 laps – 7 miles.

Golden Mile – Certificate Winners;

- Jacob F (Year 4) – 10 Miles
- Immy G (Year 3) – 10 Miles

(Mrs Newman—Golden Mile Co-ordinator)

Felicity and Jack jump a clear round for Swanbourne

Last weekend **Felicity (Year 6)** represented Swanbourne school at Bury Farm Equestrian Village with her fabulous new pony General Jack.

They rode a fabulous round in the 70cm with a double clear.

This new pair are definitely ones to watch out for.

Well done Felicity. You are a credit to our team.

(Mrs Mann – Equestrian Team Manager)



Year 2 visit the Verulamium in St Albans

On **Wednesday 19th November**, Year 2 pupils from Mursley and Drayton Parslow visited the Verulamium Museum in St Albans. It was a great day out and the children learnt lots about Roman Britain.

They dressed up in tunics and went back in time 2000 years ago to visit the forum (Market place). The children got to visit different stalls and had to find particular objects (Replicas of some of those objects actually found in St Albans!).

One child also got dressed up in a toga like an Emperor! I'd also like to add how well behaved the children were and we got several compliments from staff at the museum. Well done Year 2!

(Mrs Martin – Year 2 Teacher)



EYFS, KS1 & KS2 Cinema Trip 2025

On **Thursday 18th December**, EYFS, KS1 & KS2 pupils will be visiting the **Odeon Cinema Stadium MK**. This trip will be **free of charge** and is a treat for the pupils for their hard work this term.

I am pleased to confirm we will be watching the following film:

EYFS, KS1 and KS2 – *Zootropolis 2*

An enormous 'Thanks' to The Friends of The Three Schools, for providing the coaches and ensuring all children will be provided with popcorn and sweets or vegetarian alternatives to enjoy during the film.

We will be returning to school in time for lunch.

Here's to a wonderful treat!

(Mr May – Executive Headteacher)



Kingfishers Pre-School Update

This week we have introduced the children to the topic of 'Winter'. The children have enjoyed the story of 'Hello Winter'. With the weather being cold this week, the children have been exploring the icy outside area, sliding their feet along the floor to see if it is slippery.

We had one more celebration this week from Savannah. When Savannah has a special celebration at home, she eats pretzels! They were very popular with the Kingfishers children.

At forest school this week, we found lots of natural resources to produce some fantastic art rubbings, seeing what marks and prints they leave behind on the paper. We mixed water and mud to make a natural paint to use for our art work. And as always, the morning was topped off by a lovely warm hot chocolate and a yummy biscuit!

(The Kingfishers Team)



Christmas Jumper/Headwear Day 2025

On **Friday 19th December** across the Three Schools, we will be holding our very own Christmas Jumper and/or Headwear day to support the **MK Foodbank Charity**. Children will have the opportunity to wear a Christmas jumper and/or Christmas headwear of their choice in exchange for a voluntary food or produce donation to the MK Foodbank (see suggestions below). Also please see details of the MK Foodbank's Reverse Advent campaign below!

We look forward to a day of tinsel, Christmas hats and some fantastic jumpers on display! Children are to wear a Christmas Jumper and/or Headwear and **NORMAL SCHOOL UNIFORM** please.

Can we please request that all donations are to be brought in on the day of the Christmas Jumper and/or Headwear day;

- Suggested items;
- Long life Whole milk
- Spaghetti (Tinned)
- Long life juice
- Spread (E.g. Jam)
- Cup A Soup/Noodles
- Rice pudding (Tinned)
- Vegetables (Tinned)
- Biscuits
- Dried Pasta
- Baked Beans (Tinned)
- Dried Rice
- Pasta sauce
- Tea bags
- Soup (tinned)
- Sugar
- Meat (Tinned)
- Tomatoes (Tinned)
- Tuna (Tinned)
- Breakfast Cereals



 **Reverse Advent Campaign**

- Find a box & decorate it or borrow one of our crates
- Fill it with long life food items and Christmassy treats throughout November
- Deliver it back to us beginning of December
- We will distribute food to people in need in time for Christmas! ❤️



mkfoodbank.org.uk/latest_appeals/reverse-advent-appeal/
01908 322800

 **Reverse Advent Shopping List**

• Long Life Milk	• Tea/Coffee	• Pasta
• Juice or Squash	• Tinned Vegetables	• Cereal
• Jam	• Tinned Fruit	• Dried Rice
• Biscuits	• Rice Pudding/Custard	• Pasta Sauce
• Tinned Meat/Fish	• Tinned Tomatoes	

And don't forget to include....

- Small Chocolates/sweets
- Christmassy snacks
- Mini Christmas cakes
- Crisps and Nuts



Winslow Rotary Shoebox Appeal

What is the Rotary Shoebox appeal?

To bring a little happiness to disadvantaged children in Eastern Europe, often in orphanages, The Three Schools have volunteered to support the Winslow Rotary by joining join the many schools across the country by participating in the Rotary Shoebox Scheme.

Each year the Winslow Rotary organisation sends Shoeboxes full of gifts, filled by their supporters (schools, business and individuals), to trusted partners for distribution to countries in Eastern Europe including Romania, Moldova and Ukraine.

Although many boxes are delivered in time for Christmas (and there is still time to do that this year) the scheme runs all year round, not just for Christmas.

How we will be able to take part?

- Winslow Rotary will provide us with specially designed shoeboxes delivered to the schools
- There are four types of content you can choose to fill boxes and typically schools opt for either a box of toys for boys and girls or a box with contents geared towards teenagers/young people up to 18 years of age.
- We are inviting pupils and families to take a shoebox home and fill it with gifts.
- There is no charge to the school for the box itself as Winslow Rotary covers the £2 donation requested by the organisers for each box which contributes towards the cost of transport.
- School will then contact Winslow Rotary when all of our boxes are ready for collection and they will be taken away for delivery.

Rotary Shoebox Scheme

www.rotaryshoebox.org

Suggestions for filling your shoebox

Child ~ For young children

Cars, trucks, etc, balls, complete jigsaws, action figures, colouring books, pens, crayons, yo-yo, bubble blowers, wooden and plastic toys, pencil case, pencil sharpener, dominoes, playdough / plasticine & cutters, fluffy toys, dolls, stickers, writing pads, skipping rope, scarf, mittens / gloves, hat, harmonica, games, cards...

Teenagers ~ up to 18 years age

Sportswear, scarf, gloves, socks, hat, football memorabilia, writing materials, games, playing cards, tennis ball, tooth brush & paste, roll-on deodorants, comb, mirror, costume jewellery, make-up, hair brush, toiletries, school stationery, clothing repair kits, sketch pad, coloured pens / pencils...

Household Goods ~ For older folk & families

Scarves, gloves, hats, wrapped soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, disposable razors, shampoo, soap flakes, pan scourers, antiseptic cream, bandages, face or body creams, cosmetics, pens, writing pad & envelopes, T-lights, candles, sewing kit, scissors...

Baby ~ Age up to 12 months

This is given to new mothers and can include baby wipes, baby shampoo, baby oil, talc powder, bonnet, booties and mitts, baby grow, baby blanket, small soft toy or plastic rattle...

WHAT NOT TO INCLUDE IN ANY BOX

Do not include any sweets, chocolate, drinks or food of any kind
(They are against Customs regulations at country borders)

Battery operated toys, conflict related items, matches, inflammable liquids, inflammable aerosols (eg: deodorants & hair spray), seeds or any other living material, automatic washing machine powders

Please securely sellotape tops of liquid containers.
Protect anything sharp and do not put anything sharp into a CHILD box



- It is important to indicate on the box lid, who the box is for.
- The contents are of good quality.
- The box should be completely filled.
- Remember that the recipient will be opening the box in eager anticipation, and especially with the toys for the children, quite possibly the first real gifts they have received for a very long time.

"Spreading a Little Happiness"

We now have the shoeboxes in school, if your family would like to take part in this opportunity to support this wonderful charity, please email your school office or request a shoebox from the school.

Shoeboxes will need to be returned to school by Friday 28th November 2025.

We will be happy to accept boxes after this time but all boxes will be collected before we break up for Christmas!

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

See full reference list on our website



Aylesbury Music Centre Timetable: Autumn 2025

MONDAY

16:00-16:45	Flute Choir	Fay Hayhurst	Youssou N'Dour	Grade 1+
16:15-17:00	Advanced Improvisation	Ralph Wyld	Roblin Hall	Email rwy@bucksmusic.org
17:00-17:45	Percussion Ensemble	Ralph Wyld	Roblin Hall	Grade 2+ Any instrument
18:00-19:15	Big Band	Ralph Wyld	Roblin Hall	Grade 7+
19:30-20:30	Hi-Gain	Mappleby	Roblin Hall	Grade 2+

TUESDAY

16:00-16:45	MusiKids	Fay Hayhurst	Roblin Hall	Ages 5-8
16:45-17:15	Tuesday Choir	Fay Hayhurst	Roblin Hall	Ages 5-11
17:15-18:00	Prep Orchestra	Lauren Hollis-Hill	Roblin Hall	½ term's lessons – Grade 1
18:00-19:00	Brass Ensemble	Nigel Gibbon	Roblin Hall	Grade 3+

WEDNESDAY

17:00-17:45	Classical Guitar Group	Jaime Zaldua	Roblin Hall	Grade 1+
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THURSDAY

16:15-17:00	Training Big Band	Alex Dani	Roblin Hall	Grade 1-3
16:30-17:00	Grade 5 Theory Crash Course	Fay Hayhurst	Youssou N'Dour	Grade 4-6
17:00-18:00	Intermediate Big Band	Sam Roberts	Roblin Hall	Grade 4-6
18:00-19:00	Intermediate Band	Peter Fisher	Roblin Hall	Grade 4-6

SATURDAY

09:00-10:45	Youth Orchestra	Tom Horn	Roblin Hall	Grade 7+
09:00-10:45	Intermediate Orchestra	John Wilkinson	Harding Hall	Grade 4-6
10:00-10:45	Training Strings	Fay Hayhurst	Main Hall	Grade 1-3
10:45-11:15	Theory	Naomi Jacob	Youssou N'Dour	Grade 1-5
10:45-11:20	Saturday Youth Choir	Fay Hayhurst	Harding Hall	Open to all
10:45-11:30	Training Band	Kate Nathan	Main Hall	Grade 1-3
11:30-13:00	Concert Band	John Wilkinson	Roblin Hall	Grade 7+
11:30-13:00	Training Orchestra	Tom Horn	Harding Hall	Grade 1-3
11:30-12:30	String Ensemble	Julian Trafford	Main Hall	Grade 4+
By request	Advanced Aural	Jonathan Rowe	Youssou N'Dour	Grade 6-8

Friends of the Three Schools
Presents...

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

AT SWANBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday 3rd December 7-9pm ADULTS ONLY

Monday 8th December 4.30-6.30pm ADULT & CHILD

£45 a wreath (1 x adult or 1 x adult & child)

Seasonal Refreshment and Nibbles provided

Please bring secateurs & some greenery!!

PURCHASE TICKETS ON PTA EVENTS
WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/FRIENDSOF3SCHOOLS



Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire



FREE

**FOR PARENTS
AND CARERS**

LIVE WEBINARS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH



**DATES:
OCT – DEC
2025**



**TIME:
6PM – 7.30PM**

To register, scan the QR codes on the next page!



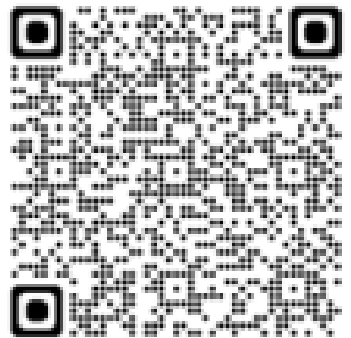
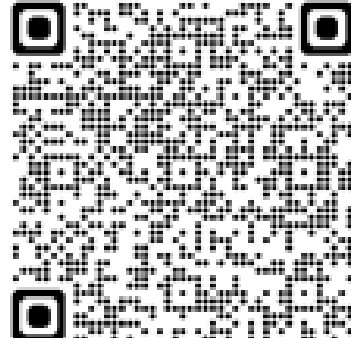
01865 901566



bucksmhst@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

* PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND AN MHST SCHOOL FOR ACCESS TO THE WEBINARS. IF YOU ARE UNSURE, PLEASE CONTACT US.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE:

Topic	Date	Link	QR code
Overview of Mental health – Primary	Monday 20th of October 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/c250a6a6-2c15-4997-be09-407fca61ef4e@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Overview of Mental health– Secondary	Monday 3rd of November 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/0d1c87a5-b3b5-4a9b-a4b2-dbbcbce77abf@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Childhood Anxiety	Monday 17th of November 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/741a9c4f-0eb4-4a23-9694-def68b6eb3b5@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Adolescent Anxiety	Monday 1st of December 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ffeb1299-da8c-44dc-8d3b-6ad980e5c729@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	

The Three Schools Calendar and Important Dates (2025-2026)		
Monday 8 th December 2025	Mursley & Drayton Parslow	Nativity Dress Rehearsal – Grandparents & Younger Siblings to watch (2.00pm)
Tuesday 9 th December 2025	Swanbourne (KS2)	Author Workshop (11.00am)
Wednesday 10 th December 2025	Mursley & Drayton Parslow	Nativity Performance (2.00pm)
Thursday 11 th December 2025	Mursley & Drayton Parslow	Nativity Performance (2.00pm)
Monday 15 th December 2025	Mursley & Drayton Parslow	Christingle Services
Tuesday 16 th December 2025	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Christmas Cracked (10.00am)
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	All Three Schools	Christmas Cinema Trip
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	Kingfishers Pre-School	Christmas Party
Thursday 18 th December 2025	Swanbourne (KS2)	KS2 Christmas Concert (9.30am & 2.00pm)
Friday 19 th December 2025	All Three Schools	Christmas Jumper/Headwear Day
Friday 19 th December 2025	All Three Schools	Break up for Christmas
Monday 5 th January 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Tuesday 6 th January 2026	All Three Schools	Spring Term 1 Starts
Wednesday 14 th January 2026	Mursley & Drayton Parslow (Year 1)	ZSL Tring Museum Trip
Monday 2 nd February 2026	Swanbourne (Year 5 & Year 6)	Young Voices Concert
Friday 13 th February 2026	All Three Schools	Dare to be different day
Friday 13 th February 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for February Half Term
Monday 23 rd February 2026	All Three Schools	Spring Term 2 Starts
Friday 27 th March 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th April 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Tuesday 14 th April 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Term 1 Starts
Wednesday 15 th April 2026	All Three Schools	Parents Evenings (3.30pm – 8.00pm)
Thursday 16 th April 2026	Swanbourne (KS2)	Parents Evenings (3.30pm – 6.30pm)
Monday 4 th May 2026	All Three Schools	Early May Bank Holiday
Saturday 16 th May 2026	All Three Schools	Colour Run
Thursday 21 st May	All Three Schools	Break up for May Half Term
Friday 22 nd May 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Monday 25 th May 2026	All Three Schools	May Bank Holiday
Monday 1 st June 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Term 2 Starts
Monday 8 th June – Friday 12 th June 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Skern Lodge Residential Trip
Wednesday 17 th June 2026	All Three Schools	Book Look
Friday 19 th June 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Disco
Friday 26 th June 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Wednesday 1 st July 2026	All Three Schools	Transition Day
Thursday 2 nd July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Transition Day 2 (Year 6 only)
Friday 10 th July 2026	All Three Schools	Speech Cup Final
Monday 13 th July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Year 6 Production (7.00pm)
Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Mursley & Drayton Parslow (Year 2)	Year 2 Leavers' Services (2.30pm)
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Year 6 Leavers' Services (9.30am)
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for Summer Holidays

Glow in the Dark Tournament

**11th December
6-8pm**

Come and learn how to
play handball!



U12

U10

U8



£3 per player





SEND Peer Support

Drop-ins for parent/carers

Buckinghamshire Council in partnership with YC2 Young Carers, Forever Colours Children's Hospice and Verdetto Lounge are offering a drop-in session for parents and carers of children with SEND. The sessions will provide the opportunity to meet informally and build support networks.

Professionals will be on hand to provide information and signposting support. Children are welcome to attend with parents/carers.



**Verdetto Lounge,
Buckingham**



Tuesdays

**Third Tuesday of
every month**



**10:00am to 12:00
midday**

Please note we cannot comment on individual EHC Plan queries or outcomes.



**Buckinghamshire
Council**

Proud to be part of

Family Hub Network

Buckinghamshire



Buckinghamshire Healthcare
NHS Trust

BHT THERAPY LINK

THERAPY ADVICE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Confidential messaging service for parents, carers, young people and professionals.

Get advice and support from the Trust's Children and Young People's Integrated Therapies team.

- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Speech and Language Therapy.



Send a text message to 07312 263754.
Or scan the QR code.

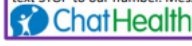
A Children and Young People's Integrated Therapy Link Worker will reply to the message within 2 working days.

The messaging service is available Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm (excluding bank holidays).

<https://chathealth.nhs.uk/start-a-chat/h/TherapyLink>

Disclaimer: We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other health care staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we have received your text. Text will only be seen between (9am and 4pm). If you need help before you hear back from us contact your GP, nearest walk in centre or dial 111. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps).

To prevent the health professional from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.



OUTSTANDING CARE

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

AND A GREAT PLACE TO WORK



Does your child love to sing?

The Mursley Singers are back for their Christmas concert in the church on Sunday 14th December. As it is always oversubscribed there will be two concerts, one at 2.30pm and then again at 5.30pm. As in previous years we would like to have a children's choir to sing two songs as well.

If your child is in school years 1 - 7 and enjoys singing, we would love to welcome them to the choir. We will have four rehearsals in the weeks leading up to the concert, provisionally booked for 4.00pm on 23th & 30th November, 7th & either 12th or 13th December. Rehearsals will last approximately 45 minutes. We will need the children to be able to attend all the rehearsals.

Please ensure your child is keen and happy to practise, and also that they are prepared to stand and sing at the front of a packed church.

If interested please contact me at k.m.rouse@btinternet.com

Also, if you want to see your child/children perform please be aware that you will need to buy tickets for the performances and they sell out quickly! See Open Gates for details.